

BRITISH SMASHING MAIN GERMAN DEFENSES

FRENCH FORCES DRIVING AHEAD OVER HARD AREA

WITH THE BRITISH FORCES IN FRANCE, Sept. 21, by The Associated Press.—English troops attacked the German lines midway between Havrincourt wood and St. Quentin at half past five o'clock this morning on a front from two and one-half to three miles.

Field Marshal Haig's thrust was made toward the strip of high ground in front of the Hindenburg defenses which cover the Scheldt canal.

The area under attack is immediately north of that part of the line held by the Australians who have already gained the Hindenburg outpost system and are closer to the canal than the infantry on either side of them.

PARIS, Sept. 21.—In their drive for the outflanking of St. Quentin on the south, the French last night captured the town of Benay and may progress north of that place, says today's war office announcement.

LONDON, Sept. 21.—Entente naval units and Allied troops operating along the river Dwina in northern European Russia, have sunk two enemy ships and have captured three guns, according to an official statement issued by the British war office today. Heavy losses were inflicted on the Bolshevik forces by the Entente Allies.

PARIS, Sept. 21.—The Germans appear to be hastening the removal of the civil population of St. Quentin and fires have been observed in different parts of the city, says Marcel Hutin in the Echo de Paris. The Germans, he adds, are placing numerous batteries in St. Quentin.

LONDON, Sept. 21.—The British attack against the Hindenburg line northwest of St. Quentin was resumed this morning east of Epehy, says the official report from Field Marshal Haig today.

Northwest of St. Quentin the British continued their progress through the main Hindenburg line, advancing their front northwest of Bellenglise.

North of Gauche wood, west of Villers-Guislain, the British have been pressed back slightly.

LONDON, Sept. 21.—The Serbian troops east of Monastir have advanced more than nine miles in one day, and now are less than eight miles from the main highway connecting Prilep with the Vardar river.

A Serbian official statement received here says that a great number of prisoners have been captured and that the Allies have taken Godiyak, west of the Cerna river and 15 miles southeast of Prilep.

(By The Associated Press) Driving northward on an ever-widening front, the Serbian and French forces in central Macedonia now menace the entire Bulgarian position from the Adriatic to Saloniki. The cutting of the Uskub-Saloniki railway, which is only nine miles from the new Serbian line would upset completely the Bulgarian defenses.

Serbian infantry is moving rapidly toward the highway from Prilep to the Vardar river and eight miles southward parallel the road on a front of more than fifteen miles. At Drosjof, north of which the cavalry are operating, the Serbs have advanced twenty miles from the Sokol positions, the capture of which precipitated the Bulgarian retreat.

The formidable salient driven into the Bulgarian line is being extended rapidly. Additional villages have been liberated. A large number of prisoners has been added to the 5000 already reported.

Apparently the Bulgarian resistance is not very great and there is no indication of where the enemy intends to make a stand.

British and Greeks continue their pressure around Lake Doiran and the enemy there must depend entirely upon the Uskub railway for supplies and reinforcements. Successful continuation of the allied stroke is fraught with great possibilities.

Entente Encircling St. Quentin. In France the British and French continue with success their operations looking toward the encircling of St. Quentin and the breaking of the Hindenburg line between St. Quentin and Cambrai. The canal is less than two miles from the British lines east of Epehy. Near Bellenglise Field Marshal Haig's men are working toward the canal which probably forms an important part of the Hindenburg defenses in this region. Around Gauche wood north of Epehy

captured Benay and made progress north of the village. A counter-attack by the enemy upon Castres was repulsed.

"There was activity by our own and the enemy's artillery in the region of the plateau north of the Aisne.

"In Lorraine two attempts by the Germans upon our posts at Arracourt and Arcanville (northeast of Lunéville) were without result."

British Gain in Flanders. LONDON, Sept. 21.—Further steps forward have been taken by the British on the Flanders front. Field Marshal Haig's statement today announces the improvement of the British position west of Messines to the south of Ypres where a strong point was captured.

Captive Serbs Join Army. LONDON, Sept. 21.—In their advance northward the Serbians have passed the line Krzyzow-Strigowo-Drogosiel-Polowko.

Soldiers who have been forced to enlist in the Bulgarian army during the occupation of southern Serbia are throwing away their arms and joining the army of liberation.

Krnyovo is nine miles southwest of Dombrkapi, the nearest point on the Vardar river and the Uskub-Saloniki railroad from the advancing Serbian line. Should the railroad be reached here the Bulgarians fighting the British and Greeks around Lake Doiran will be cut off from their base and reinforcements.

British Detachment Captured. LONDON, Sept. 21.—A British detachment of seven men was surrounded and was believed to have been captured when the Germans took Meuvres. Their post was in the northern part of the village and they held it for two days during the German occupation, inflicting losses on the enemy. When the village was re-taken the entire party rejoined its unit without loss.

The text of the statement reads: "On the occasion of the hostile attack on Meuvres on Tuesday a corporal and six men of the Highland Light Infantry, forming the garrison of one of our outposts north of the village, were surrounded and believed to have been captured. During the two days which the Germans were in occupation of Meuvres this party maintained its position with great gallantry and inflicted many casualties. On the night of Thursday-Friday when Meuvres was re-taken by us, the whole party rejoined its unit without loss."

"Yesterday fresh attacks against our posts north of Meuvres were repulsed.

"In the evening the enemy heavily bombarded our positions in the neighborhood of Gauche wood and under cover of this bombardment pressed back slightly one of our advanced posts north of the wood."

Germans Meet Repulse. Throughout the night our German infantry made repeated and determined attempts with flame throwers and bombs to drive into our positions in this locality. All the attacks were repulsed after hard fighting.

"In the night our line was advanced slightly northwest of Bellenglise. This morning fighting re-commenced in the sector east of Epehy."

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 21.—Explosions are occurring in Baku and the town is afire, according to a Moscow telegram to the Russian embassy in Berlin which is printed in the Vorwaerts.

British and Allied troops recently evacuated Baku and the town was occupied by the Turks.

GENEVA, Friday, Sept. 20.—The bombardment of Metz by American heavy artillery caused surprise but no panic, says the Metzter Zeitung. The paper adds that few persons were killed and the damage was insignificant.

It is learned from Basle, however, that the American bombardment of Metz caused an enormous sensation in Germany. Many of the inhabitants have left Metz but neutrals are prohibited from departing. It is the first time since 1870 that Metz has been under artillery fire.

PARIS, Friday, Sept. 20.—The text of the official statement issued at the war office today: "Our progress east of Essigny has been accelerated and prisoners have been taken. Artillery activity has been maintained in the region of St. Quentin and north of the Aisne. The day was calm on the rest of the front."

"Eastern theater, September 19: In spite of the vigorous resistance of the enemy rear guards the offensive between the Cerna and Vardar rivers continued to progress today. Allied cavalry have reached the region of Poloshko. Serbian forces have gained a foothold on the left bank of the Cerna in the region of Dunye."

"The Serbians have succeeded in accentuating their progress in the direction of Konopishka on the range of hills between the Belashniza River and the Boshava. French and Greek forces have taken the village of Tushin and have gained a foothold on the town of Dzena."

"Because of difficult communications over the vast amount of ground covered by the operation, it is not possible as yet to estimate the number of prisoners taken but it is known that 3000 prisoners and 80 cannons have been captured."

"The offensive of the Greeks and British in the Lake Doiran region, which has been marked by furious battles, continues to progress. Violent counter-attacks have been made in vain by Bulgarian forces."

At Castres, where the French are only slightly more than two miles from St. Quentin, a German counter-attack was repulsed.

The statement reads: "During the night French troops operating in the region of St. Quentin

VICTORY PERCHING ON ALLIED BANNERS IN WORLD CONFLICT

Six Months of Alternate Depression and Joy in Greatest Battle of History Finds Allied Star in Ascendancy and the German Attempt to Crush Entente Nations a Failure.

(By The Associated Press) Six months ago today the great German offensive began. For weeks victory seemed about to perch on the German banners. Today the Allied star is in the ascendancy. Anxiety and encouragement, depression and joy have succeeded each other since. At dawn, on March 21, the greatest battle of history began. It has been a period of almost incessant fighting and of bewildering changes in the situations that developed from day to day and from week to week.

Germany's Mightiest Effort. The Allies knew they faced Germany's mightiest effort last March but they stood unafraid. Released by the absolute collapse of Russia, vast numbers of German veterans had been rushed to the western front and been given intensive training for the offensive. Germany made no secret of her intention. It was known that great bodies of men and tremendous stores of munition had been concentrated at strategic points. It was even known where the Germans would launch their first attack and for weeks the eyes of the Allies had been fixed on the long curving line from La Fere to Arras as the stage where the first act of the great drama would be enacted.

Moving with swiftness, the German forces swept over the British lines in Picardy and rolled west like a tidal wave during the closing days of March until at last the British reached positions where they could stand at bay and the French had come to form a living wall before the gray clad host of the German emperor. Then the offensive stopped.

Hardly had its rush been checked than the line between Lens and Ypres

Continued on Page 4

HOW THE GERMANS STARTED THE WAR

Convincing Link in Proof of Preparations to Open World Struggle.

(By The Associated Press) WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—Another convincing link in the proof that Germany was preparing to start a war of world conquest at least six weeks before the excuse for it was offered by the assassination of the Austrian archduke at Sarajevo, concludes the amazing series of disclosures which the American government has given to the public through secret documents brought out of Russia.

Two authenticated documents are included in the final chapter of the story which began a week ago with evidence removing any doubt that may have existed that the Russian Bolshevik government, headed by Lenin and Trotsky, is a tool of the imperial German government.

One of these is an original circular from the German general staff dated June 9, 1914, directing that all industrial concerns be notified to open their secret instructions for industrial mobilization. Another dated November 20, 1914, is from the German naval general staff and reveals that within four months after hostilities began in Europe "destruction agents" were ordered to Canada and the United States to hire anarchists and escaped criminals for the bomb plots and work of terror which finally played a part in drawing the United States into the war.

In addition to this authenticated evidence, Edgar Sisson, who obtained the papers for the committee on public information, puts out in Russian text at Petrograd last winter purporting to be copies of documents taken from the archives of the counter-espionage bureau of the Kerensky government, supplemented by some from the files of the same bureau before the fall of the czar. Some of this matter has been published previously in France and in this country. The circulars tell of German arrangements six months before the outbreak of war for the establishment of the financial agencies in bordering neutral countries which later furnished the money for the operations of the Bolsheviks; of orders to German banks to establish close and secret relations with American and Finnish banks; of the launching of revolutionary propaganda against the czar's government in Russia as early as November, 1914, and of instructions to German diplomats in all neutral countries to co-operate with agencies set up in those countries for stirring up social unrest, strikes and sentiment against war in enemy states.

The name of Scheidemann, the German Socialist leader, already mentioned as involved in the dealings of the German government with Bolsheviks, appears attached to one of the unauthenticated documents. It is a note announcing the 350,000 grocers have been placed to the credit of a Russian newspaper and asking that Vorwaerts (the name of Scheidemann's organ at Berlin) be advised of what appeared in the subsidized journal.

An appendix to the concluding installment is what purports to be a transcript of a unique telegraphic conversation between Tchitcherine, now Bolshevik foreign minister at Petrograd and Trotsky, at Brest-Litovsk last February a few days before Trotsky made his notorious "no peace—no war" play. Tchitcherine is quoted as promising that a separate peace by which Russia would not cause a rupture with the allies and saying that "England and America are playing up to us separately."

English women who fill shells in an ammunition factory in England are obliged to wear a species of gas mask.

TURKS MEET A SERIOUS DEFEAT

Whole System From the Jordan to the Mediterranean Under British Fire.

FORCES FACE DISASTER

British, French, Serbian and Greek Forces Are Gaining in Macedonia.

(By The Associated Press) Turkish forces along the line from the Mediterranean sea to the Jordan north of Jerusalem appear to have suffered a serious defeat at the hands of the British and French armies and their Allies, the Arabs. If the situation develops as favorably as the opening phases of the fighting, the sultan's forces may suffer disaster.

Attacking over a front sixteen miles in length the Allies have virtually overrun the whole Turkish defensive system along the Mediterranean coast. Railroad junctions have been taken and cavalry is operating in the rear of Turkish forces which are holding the line east of the front where the attack was launched. These enemy units are prevented from retreating eastward by the hostility of Hejaz tribes beyond the Jordan and they face a serious problem in making their way back to safety along the western bank of that stream. More than three thousand prisoners have been captured by the Allies who have also taken great quantities of war materials.

British, French and Serbian and Greek forces are pursuing their successes in the Macedonian theater of the war. Poloshko, 19 miles east of Prilep, has been reached by the French while the Serbians crossed the Cerna and are near Dunye, south of Prilep. Further east the British and Greeks are forcing the Bulgarians back into the Lake Doiran region in spite of violent resistance.

Along the battle line in France the British are still hammering at the Hindenburg line north of St. Quentin and have made gains of considerable importance. The success of the British, especially that of the Australian units, give reason for the belief that the German lines north of St. Quentin may be broken by the Allied onslaught. South of St. Quentin the French are fighting relentlessly and are making progress in the region of Essigny-le-Grand.

Along the American front in Lorraine is of minor nature. Allied forces in Russia have routed the Bolsheviks on the northern front. Petrograd dispatches state the Bolshevik retreat was caused by the treachery of Lettish regiments which refused to fight against the British. The Letts have heretofore been the staunchest supporters of the Bolsheviks.

The center party definitely decided on its attitude as to the chancellorship at a meeting on Monday. A section of the party is following the lead of Herr Georger, one of its reichstag representatives, in a desire to retain Count von Hertling. The majority of the party, demands the retirement of the chancellor. Count Brodowski, German minister at Copenhagen, is especially mentioned as the chancellor's successor.

COPENHAGEN, Sept. 21.—A meeting of the independent Socialists in the first Berlin district was dissolved by the police, according to the Berlin Vorwaerts, a copy of which has been received here. Hugo Haase, leader of the Socialist minority, was refused permission to speak and the police arrested Adolf Hoffman, the chairman of the meeting.

Social-Democrats to Participate. AMSTERDAM, Sept. 21.—German newspapers are seriously discussing the participation of the Social-Democrats in the government. Germania reproaches the Socialists for failing to utilize the opportunity of gaining influence through the selection of one of their leaders in the government.

If the Social-Democracy once undertook to share the responsibility it would soon realize that in politics there are great and often almost insurmountable difficulties. Germania says, "For this very reason we should not object to Socialist leaders entering the government."

Liberty Loan Pennants Are To Be Awarded. WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—Industrial honor pennants, a new development in Liberty loan campaigning, will be awarded to all establishments which employ have subscribed to the Fourth Liberty loan.

VICE ADMIRAL RETIRES. AMSTERDAM, Friday, Sept. 20.—Reports that Vice Admiral Edouard von Capelle, minister of the navy, has been retired, seem to be confirmed by telegrams from Berlin announcing that Vice Admiral Behneke has been appointed to represent Admiral von Capelle who is on leave.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—The British casualties reported during the week ending today follow: Killed or died of wounds: Officers 487; men 3,458. Wounded or missing: Officers 1,196; men 17,208.

TWELVE AVIATORS KILLED. WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—Twelve deaths from airplane accidents at army aviation fields throughout the country during the week ended September 14 are reported in a summary by the war department.

Over 1,750,000 Soldiers Have Been Sent Overseas.

NEW AMERICAN LINE

U. S. Troops Only Ten Miles From Metz.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—Embarkation of American soldiers for all fronts overseas now has passed the 1,750,000 mark, General March announced today. He said military news during the past week from all fronts has been continuously good.

On the Lorraine front where General Pershing's First American army has completed its operation to eliminate the St. Mihiel salient, the situation has become stabilized with the enemy hurriedly perfecting a new line in front of the American division. This line stretches for twenty miles from Maizeray to the Meuse at Vandœuvre.

The Americans now are ten miles from Metz and an equal distance from Conflans.

General March read a cablegram citing a general order issued by Major-General H. L. Reed, commanding the 15th Scottish division. British army, praising the first artillery brigade of the First American division (regulars) for work in co-operation with the Scots. The order said the 15th had never received such perfect assistance in "taking over" operations, although it was realized that the American division at that time must have been under severe strain and had suffered severe casualties.

Answering questions regarding specific American units General March said the 9th division (Texas and Oklahoma national army troops) is in the Vosges, while the 36th (Texas and Oklahoma national guard troops) is in a training sector with the French.

No commander has been yet selected for the 18th regular division which still is in the country training at Camp Travis, Tex. The 11th engineers of the 39th division (Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana national troops) has just landed in France.

The Scottish division, it appeared, was relieving the First American division on an active front. General Reed ordered the division to take over the division and the voluntary action of the commander of the American artillery brigade in remaining and joining the establishing units and giving up the well earned relief for himself and his men had relieved the situation. The order specifically thanked Brigadier-General R. L. Holbrook, the American artillery commander, and Colonel Mable, the medical officer. If it had not been for the American ambulance units, General Reed said, at least 400 British wounded men would still be on his hands in this sector.

General March said that more detailed reports of the American operations at St. Mihiel spoke highly of the French troops, which participated.

MUTINY OF LETTISH REGIMENTS. AMSTERDAM, Friday, Sept. 20.—The recent Bolshevik defeat on the northern front is attributed to a mutiny of Lettish regiments, according to a Petrograd telegram to the North German Gazette of Essen. The telegram says that the Letts, who hitherto have been faithful allies of the soviet government, refused to fight against the British.

WILSON NAMES ASSISTANT. WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—G. L. Christie of Indiana was nominated today by President Wilson to be assistant secretary of agriculture. Victor Murdock of Kansas was nominated for another term as a member of the federal trade commission.

BRITISH CASUALTIES. LONDON, Sept. 21.—The British casualties reported during the week ending today follow: Killed or died of wounds: Officers 487; men 3,458. Wounded or missing: Officers 1,196; men 17,208.